

WATER QUALITY COORDINATOR FOR WEST COAST SANCTUARIES

Applications due July 19, 2004

BACKGROUND:

National Marine Sanctuaries on the West Coast are administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to enhance and protect unique marine and coastal resources. An important issue for many of these sanctuaries is potential contamination from point and nonpoint sources of pollution, either through direct ocean discharges, or runoff from nearby watersheds. The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) has developed an extensive Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP), which operates as a partnership between federal, state, and local agencies, public and private groups to address sources of pollution in the region. Completed plans now being implemented include Urban Runoff, Agriculture and Rural Lands, Marinas and Boating, and Regional Monitoring. A Beach Closure plan is nearing completion (see water quality section at <http://www.montereybay.noaa.gov/>).

NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Program requires the services of a contractor to expand on the WQPP's model and tailor similar programs to the water quality issues and needs at four other west-coast sanctuaries: Channel Islands NMS, Gulf of the Farallones NMS, and Cordell Bank NMS, all on the coast of California; and Olympic Coast NMS, off the State of Washington. The contractor will serve as a liaison to these sites and will provide guidance and assistance in developing site-specific WQPPs that meet the needs of each sanctuary. The contractor will also seek to identify products and programs that can be utilized by all five west-coast sanctuaries.

STATEMENT OF DUTIES:

- Coordinate with MBNMS WQPP Director to review and gain familiarity with existing water quality issues, plans, programs and products in the MBNMS
- Meet with sanctuary management and staff at all west coast sanctuaries to gather initial information about water quality issues and evaluate the status of existing methods of addressing water quality
- Coordinate with staff at all sites to provide guidance and assistance in developing, and where possible, implementing plans for addressing water quality issues
- Provide guidance and assistance to sites in strengthening partnerships with local, state and federal agencies, and public and private stakeholders in developing and implementing water quality plans
- Identify opportunities for expansion or modification of existing WQPP programs and products for use by other sites
- Recommend appropriate sequential phasing for development and implementation of more detailed water quality plans as needed at sites
- Identify recommended new water quality products or programs that would benefit all west-coast sanctuaries

QUALIFICATIONS: Contractor should have a master's degree in ecology, conservation planning or related field and at least two years relevant experience in coastal and watershed water quality issues, conservation planning and outreach, and the development of multistakeholder partnerships.

CONTRACT AND APPLICATION: Work is expected to be full-time and will be based out of the Sanctuary offices in either Santa Cruz or Monterey, California. Contractor will be expected to make at least two trips to each of the four other sanctuaries. The contract will run from August 1, 2004 to July 31, 2005, with possible extensions for future years. Benefits are not included and are the responsibility of the contractor.

Applicants should contact Shannon McIlroy (ph (206)526-6027, Fax (206)526-6025, Email shannon.c.mcilroy@noaa.gov) A.S.A.P. to receive a Request for Quotation (RFQ). **RFQ's must be submitted by the applicant no later than July 19th.** For questions regarding the position, please contact Chris Coburn, Water Quality Protection Program Director, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (831) 420-1670.